

TRANSGENDER PEOPLE VOTE & PARTICIPATE in public life



have the
RIGHT to

People have the right to participate in making decisions about how life will be lived in our local communities. They have the right to vote and to participate freely in the public realm. Our government relies on people's willingness to seek elected office, to serve as public safety officers, to volunteer, and to make the places we live and work better.

Transgender people face barriers to voting when it is challenging to obtain identification that fits our gender identity. It can be difficult to change voter registration to reflect an accurate name and gender marker. Transgender people face discrimination when applying for jobs as public servants, as police officers and firefighters. Only a handful of transgender people have been elected to office.

Yet, there are now increasing numbers of transgender candidates for office and more and more fire and police departments ban discrimination based on gender identity. Transgender people volunteer in all kinds of capacities. Transgender people have the right to participate in the civic life of our country.

See United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights, Article 21

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